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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Wyatt *et al.*

Appl. No. To be assigned (U.S. National
Phase of PCT/GB99/00905)

Filed: Herewith

For: **Signal Transduction Protein
Involved in Plant Dehiscence**

Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 0623.0890000/EKS/PSC

Second Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In advance of prosecution please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

3. Nucleic acid as claimed in claim 1 [or claim 2] which is naturally expressed in a dehiscence zone.

4. Nucleic acid as claimed in claim 1 encoding a protein wherein the protein:

- a) comprises the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 1 or;
- b) has one or more amino acid deletions, insertions or substitutions relative to a protein as defined in a) above, and has at least 40% amino acid sequence identity therewith; or

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